GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:113
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2004
HEPATITIS - B CASES
Chaliha Shri Kirip;Patil Shri Prakash V.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of increased cases of Hepatitis-B in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether India ranks second in the world with regard to the number of patients of Hepatitis-B as reported in the 'Rajasthan Sahara dated October 3, 2004;

(d) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(e) whether the Government has chosen some cities in the country for free distribution of Hepatitis −B vaccines as a part of its universal immunization programme;

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the name of the cities; and

(g) the total number of hospitals in the country for its treatment as on date and the facilities provided in the said hospitals?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) to (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 113 FOR 8TH DECEMBER, 2004

While covering the deliberations of an International Conference held by the Indian Society of Gastro-enterology in Jaipur recently, the Rashtriya Sahara newspaper dated 3rd October, 2004, reported that India has the second largest number of Hepatitis-B Virus (HBV) patients in the world next only to China and that there are about 4.5 crore estimated HBV patients in India. However, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) have stated that India has the second largest pool of HBV carriers in the world (next to China) and that there are an estimated 4.3 crore HBV carriers in India.

Hepatitis-B spreads through unsafe sex, unsafe blood transfusion, unsafe injection etc. and also from mother to child. While separate data of Hepatitis-B cases is not centrally maintained, state-wise number of cases due to Viral Hepatitis including Hepatitis-B as reported by Central Bureau of Health Intelligence during the years 2001, 2002 & 2003 is at Annexure-I.

Hepatitis-B is preventable by ensuring precautionary measures. The Government has launched a pilot project of immunization of Hepatitis-B for children below one year only. Hepatitis-B vaccination has commenced and is continuing in 15 cities since 2002-03, and in 32 districts and Andaman & Nicobar Islands since 2003-04. The details of these cities/districts is at Annexure-II. Children below the age of one year in the project area are provided Hepatitis-B vaccination free of cost.

While the general health care delivery system in the country is well equipped to handle various diseases, Hepatitis-B is effectively tackled through preventive measures including vaccination. The following measures have been taken to prevent infection of Hepatitis-B :-

- Central Government hospitals personnel at high risk are being immunized against Hepatitis-B. State Governments have also been advised to take similar steps.

- Guidelines have been issued for mandatory testing of blood in all blood banks.

- Promotion of safe sex under National AIDS Control Programme is advocated.

- Health awareness campaigns regarding danger of using non-sterile syringes and needles under National AIDS Control Programme are held.

- Guidelines have been issued to State Health Authorities for use of separate sterile syringes and needles for each injection.

Vaccines for Hepatitis-B is available in the country at affordable prices.

ANNEXURE-I

STATE-WISE NO. OF REPORTED CASES OF VIRAL HEPATITIS INCLUDING HEPATITIS-B DURING 2001-2003

VIRAL HEPATITIS - 2003

SL.NO.	STATE/U.T.	2001	2002	2003
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	24530	16224	23094
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH		299	
3	ASSAM			
4	BIHAR			
5	CHATTIS GARH			
6	GOA	71	190	
7	GUJARAT	124	2365	2752
8	HARYANA	3891	384	1645
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH	2731	1648	1748
10	JAMMU & KASHMIR	1275	6245	8432
11	JHAR KHAND	4226		
12	KARNATAKA		6663	23085
13	KERALA	26256	5323	7433
14	MADHYA PRADESH	4532	5515	9599
15	MAHARASHTRA	3267	29525	33515
16	MANIPUR	39911	397	310
17	MEGHLAYA	1558	472	413
18	MIZORAM	500	1111	744
19	NAGALAND	1183	131	127
20	ORISSA	144	648	2500
21	PUNJAB	7334	3141	5169
22	RAJASTHAN	4881	1758	2076
23	SIKKIM	2955	210	414
24	TAMIL NADU	409	2320	
25	TRIPURA	1632	105	86
26	UTTARANCHAL	1784		
27	UTTAR PRADESH		518	2964
28	WEST BENGAL	1885	7032	6527
29	A & N ISLAND	6303	368	467
30	CHANDIGARH	536	235	398
31	D & N HAVELI	310	232	227
32	DAMAN & DIU	6	23	20
33	DELHI	3159	5053	7476
34	LAKSHADWEEP	71	22	19
35	PONDICHERRY	654	534	872
	TOTAL	146047	98273	142601

ANNEXURE-II

LIST OF CITIES & DISTRICTS

State/U.T.	Cities (2002-03)	Districts (2003-04)
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	Madurai
		Nilgiri
		Virudhnagar
		Ramanathapuram
Kerala		Alapuzzha
		Ernakulam
		Pathnamthitta
Karnataka	Bangalore	Kodagu
		Shimoga
		Mysore
Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Chittoor
		Vizianagaram
Goa	Goa	
Maharashtra	Mumbai	Ratnagiri
	Pune	Chandrapur
		Satara
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal & Indore	Balaghat
Orissa		Sundergarh
Punjab		Rupnagar
		Hoshiarpur
Haryana		Panchkula
		Ambala
Himachal Pradesh		Hamirpur
		Solan
Uttaranchal		Nainital
Pondicherry		Pondicherry
Lakshadweep		Lakshadweep
Assam		Jorhat
		Sibsagar

Jammu & Kashmir	Rajouri Udhampur	
Gujarat	Ahmedabad & Vadodara	Surat
A & N Islands	A & N district	
Delhi	Delhi	
West Bengal	Kolkatta	
Rajasthan	Jaipur	
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow & Kanpur	
Bihar	Patna	